



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

the powerful current ; 5 miles being the greatest distance which it was able to ascend the Tambo (60 miles from the fort of Chanchamayo) and 35 miles the Urubamba. The Ucayali has a course of 772 miles in this order :—

| | |
|--|---------------|
| From its mouth to the town of Sarayacu | Miles. 269 |
| From Sarayacu to the mouth of River Pachitea, a tributary of the Ucayali | 306 |
| From the mouth of the Pachitea to that of the Tambo | 197 |
| | <hr/> 772 |

The steamer *Napo* has ascended by the Urubamba 35 miles higher than the mouth of the Tambo; and if this last point be compared with that which the city of Cuzco occupies, it will be found that the distance in a straight line is but 65 leagues.

This expedition confirms the tidings which other explorers had given us of the great Ucayali, with respect to the facility with which it can be navigated in any season by larger vessels, as well as—what is now beyond doubt—that the Ucayali is the true source of the Amazon, and not the Marañon as was formerly supposed.

It is almost impossible to determine the number of Indians that inhabit these regions, but it is supposed that it must be very large from the great traffic that is observed in navigating the river.

The principal articles of commerce of the lower Ucayali are, salt fish, land and river turtle, oil of copaiba, and gums: the temperature is very mild and agreeable.

The expedition has been unable to ascend the Tambo, on account of the incapability of the steamer, that is to say [at least Mr. Tucker asserts so] with another better adapted, the approach to Chanchamayo will be effected, and thus the great problem will be resolved, of the possible navigation of our rivers to the foot of our Eastern cities.

4. *Journey through the Gold Country of South Africa.* By J. FENWICK WILKINSON, Esq.

ON the 7th May, 1866, I left Merico, Trans Vaal Republic, with the intention of exploring and hunting the Mashoona country, north-east of Moselikatse. We reached the chief Sekomo's in one month; and found plenty of water and grass. We went by the way of the Notwani, a tributary of the Limpopo. There are three roads leading to Sekomo's (now Machin's) from Merico: one by the Limpopo, one by the Notwani, and one by the chief Sechele. By the latter there are about two days and a half of deep sand to track through, with a scarcity of water; this was the road used by Mr. Baldwin. By the Limpopo, you have nearly one day of sand, after leaving the river, and in the winter—the dry season—you may not find a drop of water from the time you leave the river till you get to Machin's, three and a half days' track. By the Notwani you have only about two hours of sand, generally speaking plenty of water, and a better road. There is very little difference in the distance. The bush-country begins at Merico. There is abundance of firewood, &c. The camel-thorn abounds, and, the further north you go, the more timber you find.

The country, after reaching the Notwani and Limpopo, is nearly flat in places; in other parts gentle undulations. Giraffes, buffaloes, elands, koodoo, pallah, lions, &c., abound. We remained about five days at Sekomo's, during which time he was deposed, and Machin raised to the throne. The principal part of the ceremony at the coronation consisted, I believe, in their

killing an ox, and Sekomo smearing Machin's hand with some of the dung! Sekomo was opposed to education and civilisation; subsequently he left the country, as his sons supported Machin, who favours education, and is, I believe, a Christian. Two days after leaving Machin's, on the road to Moselikatse, you have about a day and a half without water; that is, in the dry season. The tsetse (fly) is near on the right-hand side, but not on the path. You then have sufficient water all the way to the river Ramahquaban. Ramahquaban is about nine days' track by ox-waggon from Machin's.

We arrived there in June, and found the bed of the river dry; it is about 100 yards broad. We got plenty of water for our oxen in a pool close to the drift or ford, between some large granite boulders. We almost emptied the hole, but it soon filled again, the water percolating through the sand. All the rivers had sandy beds, and we saw numerous holes with water in them, made by the elephant, buffalo, rhinoceros, &c.

Ramahquaban is about 21° s. lat., and crossed by the meridian of 29° E. long. From here to Moselikatse's there is a good road; indeed right through the Mattabuli country, with abundance of grass, bush, timber, and *running* streams summer and winter. As the great chief Moselikatse is frequently changing his place of residence, it is difficult to say how far *he* may be from Ramahquaban; but nine or ten days from Ramahquaban will generally reach him. We killed seven or eight elephants on our way up, besides other large game, such as giraffes, elands, &c.

We found the chief in moderate health; he is 74 years of age, but paralytic, and unable to move himself. He sits in an arm-chair outside his hut, the greater part of the day, drinking Kafir beer, surrounded by some of his wives (he is reported to have 600) and captains. He is always glad to see Englishmen. It is supposed that he could, if pressed, muster an army of 50,000 men. From him we obtained leave to penetrate the Mashoona country, which we did to $16^{\circ} 30'$ (or thereabouts) s. lat., 30° E. long.

We found a most beautiful country, undulating, full of running streams, and some fine rivers, and in the deep reaches of which were hippopotami and crocodiles. We were one month reaching the river "Swaiswa;" it runs north-west, as indeed did all the rivers in that country, as far as we saw. As we got far north, we lost the thorn-bushes; but the country is well wooded, with what appeared to me a sort of acacia with very long leaves, but I am no botanist.

The beds of the rivers were covered with agates, calcedony, crystals, &c. We made a stay of two to three weeks on the banks of the Swaiswa, hunting elephants, &c. We then crossed the river and tracked through a remarkably rich country to "Fole," another large river laid down in Dr. Livingstone's map. Fole is about a day to a day and a half from Swaiswa. We found no difficulty in travelling through the country with our waggons. We generally followed some Kafir path; and in the heart of the Mashoona country came to water nearly every half-hour on the average.

We halted *about* three weeks on the south bank of the "Fole," and left our waggons for three or four days at a time to hunt elephants. We penetrated about 35 miles further north on horseback, till we must have been in the lat. of Tete, but some 120 miles to the westward of it. We saw three or four Mashoona one day, but they ran away. They were once a numerous and powerful tribe, but the Zulus under Moselekatse have almost exterminated them. This country is *nearly* literally "without inhabitants."

We passed by many ruined towns and villages. Their huts are similar to those further south, that is, mud walls four feet high, round, and a roof of grass. We rode over several gardens, and rice, Indian corn, and millet grounds. The Mashoona are great agriculturists; we observed some new kind of earth-nuts, and a root somewhat resembling a sweet potato, but not so large. They

cultivate rice in round holes about a yard in diameter; they then let the water in when they please. On one occasion, on an afternoon, we saw a native, he ran for his life; our guides (from Moselikatse) chased him. We cantered after them; the chase took us to a natural fortification of immense granite rocks, 30 and 40 feet high, enclosing an area of about 50 yards in diameter. Where the rocks did not meet, the natives had built a wall 6 feet thick by 10 high. There were two entrances. We found a party of some 20 men sitting round a fire in a most dejected and resigned state. Moselikatse had attacked the same people a short time previously, and committed awful slaughter; these poor creatures thought that he had now sent mounted white men to finish them. They were astonished when we asked them kindly if they would *sell* us some rice and Indian corn, and when we paid them double the value they were still more surprised and delighted; they had never seen white men nor horses before. As we rode into the enclosure they never touched a weapon, their assagaies, bows, and arrows were by their side. They had one large hut between the rocks; we had to ascend a rude ladder to see it; we did not go down and enter it, as the women and children were greatly alarmed. We passed the night in the Mashoona fortress; and some of the young men accompanied us next day, to carry our guns and assist us to find elephants. Two or three of the men had highly-finished knives, the blades were about 10 to 12 inches long, the handle 4 inches; the wooden sheaths were well carved, and ornamented with copper wire. We offered a great price for them, but nothing would induce them to part with one.

The richest gold-fields, discovered in 1867 by Herr Carl Mauch, are in this district, only a little further to the westward down the Swaiswa and Fole. He informed me that the goldfield reached with 50 miles of the Zambesi. I did not go up the country that year.

Of course the best route to those goldfields is the Zambesi, and *not Natal*. From Natal you have a journey of three months, involving great expense, labour, and hardships. On our return to Fole from our Mashoona friends we found no waggons, but a notice stuck on a tree, to inform us the *tsetse* fly had been seen the evening before, and that they had inspanned, and retreated some six miles. Resting here for two or three days we inspanned, and with a Mashoona for our guide struck off through the Veld to the eastward; the second day we outspanned on the banks of a small stream, the sides of which were covered with agates, calcedony, and crystals. I found here a piece of calcedony about the size of my fist, in a hollow was a beautiful cluster of five gems. I also discovered some fossil bones, one portion had crystals on it. Some five miles to the eastward was a range of mountains running north and south. The rivers Fole, Swaiswa, Umyati, and others rushed through these mountains to the n.w., but we were evidently close to the watershed of this part of South Africa, as the streams were very small. We saw a great deal of elephant-spoor, but did not meet with many elephants. Lions abound. The mountains were, I might say, made of iron, the ore was so rich. On riding to the top we perceived another range of mountains, about 40 miles further to the eastward also running n. and s.; the country between was rich and beautiful in the extreme, and, as I thought, resembled rich English scenery in a grass county. An undulating country full of rivers and brooks, fields, trees in hedge-rows, woods and parks.

Our Mashoona guide was much interested in the waggons, he thought the wheels turning round an excellent idea. At this place he was the only native who came near us—the others fled. Two to three hundred of them surrounded us one dark night as we sat round our fire; they thought we were half-caste Portuguese traders; their intention was to spear us, and were just in the act of lifting their assagais when they recognised Inyoke, our guide from Moselikatse; they then knew that we must be the white hunters they had heard of, but

had never seen before. They then retired, and we knew nothing of our escape till the following year.

We remained about three weeks on this spot, and then steering south and south-west got on to our old track, and bore away again for Moselikatse. We calculated the mountain ranges to be from 1500 to 2000 feet from the base. I might remark that, on ascending a hill at our furthest point north, I saw the small river we had halted on for the night, after running a little way n.w. bend and run nearly due north into the Zambesi. We enjoyed excellent health during the whole trip.

Mashoona country lies high, but I cannot say how high, above the level of the sea. We continued to rise gradually from Moselikatse's Kraal nearly the whole way to the mountain range. During the whole of this journey I was in company with Mr. James Gifford, who took charge of the present Sir Richard Glyn's waggons in his trip to the Zambesi in 1863. In computing distance by time by ox-waggon, 18 miles a day would be a fair average, six hours a day at three miles an hour. We returned to Merico in January, 1867.

October 26, 1868.